

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A non-intrusive female urinary incontinence device (13) comprising a flexible elastic substantially flat strip (1) having a flat upper face and a lower face, an opening (3) being provided in the strip communicating between the upper and lower faces, a fluid collection means surrounding (4) the opening in a fluid tight manner on the lower face of the strip and means (19) for attaching the device to a supporting means (17), wherein the strip and opening are sized and shaped such that when it is stretch fitted over the external urogenital organs, the labia minora extends through the opening and the strip terminates against flesh residing outside the labia minora and inside the labia majora without any intervening material and wherein the flat upper face of the strip conforms to the shape of the wearer and defines a fluid tight fit between the upper face of the strip and the flesh surrounding the labia minora and around the base of the labia minora, such that, in use, urine is conveyed from the urethra, through the labia minora, into the collection means without leakage.

2. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 1 wherein the fluid collection device comprises a funnel portion the curved wall of which at an upper end extends circumferentially from the surface of the oval region around the opening and curves inwards to a lower open end (8) suitable for communicating with a collection vessel (34).

3. (Original) A device according to claim 2 wherein the anterior surface of the wall of said funnel curves more sharply than the posterior surface, such that the lower opening (8) at the base of the funnel lies in a lower plane than that of the opening (3) in the strip.

4. (Original) A device according to claim 1 wherein said funnel has a double-walled structure, the inner curved wall (5) narrowing symmetrically and more sharply than the outer wall so that an internal opening (9) is formed substantially parallel to and of smaller radius than the opening (3) in the strip.

5. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 3 wherein a cavity (24) is formed between the posterior surface of the inner wall and the posterior surface of the outer wall such that, when the user is in a horizontal position, urine which has passed through the internal opening (9) of the funnel is prevented from flowing back into the cavity between said opening and the oval opening of the strip.

6. (Previously Presented) A device according to claims 3 wherein the inner wall (5) and outer wall (6) are spaced apart such that urine in the cavity (24) is prevented from flowing back into the interior opening (9).

7. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 1 wherein the exterior wall (6) of the funnel is constructed of resilient flexible material and the interior wall (5) is constructed with substantially the same material as the strip.

8. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 1 wherein the funnel is integral to the strip.

9. (Previously Presented) A device according to claims 1 wherein said strip comprises divergent elongated straps at the front and rear to provide anterior and posterior support straps for attachment to a supporting waistband, so that in use the strip is stretched tightly over the external urogenital organs.

10. (Original) A device according to claim 9 wherein the length of said straps is adjustable with respect to the waistband to allow for differences in size and shape of the user.

11. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 1 in which the strip portion is maintained under tension in use.

12. (Previously Presented) A urinary incontinence device further comprising a waistband (13) and means (20) for attachment to the device of claim 1.

13. (Original) A urinary incontinence device according claim 12 wherein the attachment means is adjustable to maintain a positive tension on the device when in use.

Claim 14 (Canceled).

15. (Previously Presented) A urinary incontinence device according to Claim 1, wherein the fluid collection means comprises a downwardly extending funnel that is sized and configured to engage the strip and reside inside folds of the labia majora allowing a wearer to place underwear over the funnel.

16. (Previously Presented) A urinary incontinence device according to Claim 1, wherein the strip elongates anteriorly and posteriorly to merge into extension straps thereby providing a continuous seal.

17. (Currently Amended) A female urinary incontinence device, comprising:

Aan elastic strip having two opposing outer perimeter segments surrounding a urine flow passage, the outer perimeter segments sized and configured to stretch and reside snugly against flesh at a base region of a wearer's labia minora and within inner tissue folds of the wearer's labia majora so that the strip directly contacts without any intervening material and flesh surrounding the base of the labia minora to define a fluid-tight seal while allowing the labia minora to extend through the urine flow passage of the strip;

a collection funnel sealably attached to the strip and in fluid communication with the urine flow passage of the strip; and

a securing member configured to hold the strip in position on the wearer, wherein, in use, urine flows from the urethra, between the labia minora, then to the funnel in a leak-proof manner.

18. (Currently Amended) A device according to Claim 17, wherein the strip is a flat flexible elastic strip of silicone.

19. (Currently Amended) A female fluid collection device, comprising:

[[a]] an elastic strip having two opposing outer perimeter segments surrounding a flow passage, the outer perimeter segments sized and configured to stretch and reside snugly against tissue surrounding a base region of a wearer's labia minora but within inner tissue folds of the wearer's labia majora without any intervening material so that the strip directly contacts ~~and~~ tissue surrounding the base of the labia minora to define a fluid-tight seal with the labia minora extending through the flow passage of the strip;

a collection funnel sealably attached to the strip and in fluid communication with the flow passage of the flat elastic strip; and

a securing member configured to hold the strip in position on the wearer,

wherein, in use, fluid flows from the body between the labia minora, then to the funnel in a leak-proof manner.

20. (Currently Amended) A device according to Claim 19, wherein the strip is a flexible flat elastic silicone strip.